

Table 1. *Categories of Common Bulbuls with white-eye rings in the Kerio Valley*

Type	description	No. seen
1.	White at base of bill and heavy continuous 2-mm eye-ring on both sides	4
2.	White at base of bill and partial heavy eye-ring:	
	2a Complete left, discontinuous right	1
	2b Complete right, discontinuous left	1
	2c 'Half moon' behind both eyes	1
	2d Partial right, none left	2
	2e Partial left, none right	1
3.	White at base of bill and continuous feint white eye-ring on both sides	1
4.	White at base of bill only	3

All the birds were seen in mid-May 1993 apart from type 2c which was recorded on 1 June 1993. None have been noted from outside the area, being confined initially to about 50 ha at 1500 m. The birds dispersed at the onset of the rains, presumably to breed.

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Description of the nest and eggs of the Lead-coloured Flycatcher *Myioparus plumbeus* from the Kerio Valley, Kenya

Myioparus plumbeus is described as local and uncommon in woodland, wooded grassland, scattered thickets, moist bushland and forest edges up to 2000 m (Britton 1980). Brown & Britton's (1980) only record for the species is of nest building in April in their Region B.

On 19 April 1992 at Lake Kamnorok (0°39N, 35°37E) we saw a pair of *M. plumbeus* carrying fine grass to a west-facing hole in a dead tree about 5 m above the water. Because of flooding, we were unable to reach the tree to make further investigations. Then on 12 March 1993, in an exotic plantation area at 1450 m (0°20N, 35°40E) we saw a pair of the same species taking nesting material to a former Nubian Woodpecker *Campethera nubica* nest hole in a telegraph pole 5½ m above the ground. We were able to watch this site and the birds began incubating on about 19 March leaving the west-facing hole unattended during the heat of each afternoon. We recorded the nest and egg details given below on 23 March.

The entrance hole was 6 cm in diameter with the nest rim 2.5 cm below. The cup-shaped nest itself was 6 cm in internal diameter and 2.5 cm deep, scantily made from fine interwoven grass and lined with dried bougainvillea flowers and small feathers. The two eggs were pale sea-green, heavily marked all over with dark olive-green streaks and spots, more concentrated at the larger end. They measured 17 x 12.5 mm.

In South Africa, Maclean (1985) describes the eggs as being dull white or greenish white spotted with olive-brown and greyish brown while Mackworth-Praed & Grant (1960) describe them as dull white or whitish green spotted and blotched with various shades of brown.

On 3 April one of the birds was taken by a Little Sparrowhawk *Accipiter minullus* and the nest was deserted until 14 April when what was presumably the remaining bird was seen clearing nesting material from the hole. On 25 April a Brown Parrot *Poicephalus meyeri* was also seen removing nesting material. However, on 2 May a pair of *M. plumbeus* were once again seen carrying material to the nest site and, although one adult was occasionally seen sitting on the nest between 14 and 20 May, breeding was not successful.

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Woodpecker feeding immature honeyguide

On 8 August 1993, G. Davey, T. Davidson and I were bird watching in a patch of groundwater forest some 2 km east of the Masai Mara Game Reserve's Musiara Gate in southwestern Kenya. We watched a pair of Bearded Woodpeckers *Thripias namaquus* foraging. The female collected a bill-full of insects and flew into the canopy of a nearby *Euclea* tree, closely followed by a Scaly-throated honeyguide *Indicator variegatus*. From its very pale underside, it was judged to be an immature. Perching near the woodpecker, the honeyguide begged with wing-fluttering and open bill. The woodpecker immediately fed its load of insects into the honeyguide's gape and left in search of more. The feeding was repeated three times in 15 min.

This record suggests that *Thripias namaquus* is a nest host for *Indicator variegatus*, and confirms that the fledgling honeyguide is fed after it has left the host's nest hole. Other potential hosts for honeyguides seen in the same patch of forest at the same time included Spotted-flanked Barbets *Lybius lacrymosus*, Grey Woodpecker *Mesopicos gortae* and Lilac-breasted Roller *Coracias caudata*.

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